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GLENDALE HOSTS SWEETEST EVENT IN TOWN SUPER BOWL WEEKEND WITH 20TH ANNUAL CHOCOLATE AFFAIRE

Glendale Chocolate Affaire presented by Sears Vacations

GLENDALE, Ariz. – Glendale will host a super-sweet event of its own on Super Bowl weekend, Friday, Jan. 30 and Saturday, Jan. 31. The 20th Annual Glendale Chocolate Affaire in Historic Downtown Glendale will be a chocolate lover's paradise, with special activities geared toward sports fans, as well.

Visitors will delight in the more than 30 chocolate purveyors, featuring unique confections like chocolate chipotle popcorn, chocolate crepes and chocolate caramel potato chips, plus old favorites that include chocolate-covered cheesecake, chocolate-dipped strawberries and goat milk fudge. And the best part? The event offers free admission! The Chocolate Affaire is sponsored by Arizona's famous candy makers, Cerreta Candy Company. The candy factory will offer tours all weekend, and visitors can expect to see some football-themed chocolate creations at the factory, as well as a chocolate-football decorating activity.

Families with children can enjoy inflatables, a caricature artist, face-painting, carnival rides and more. The exciting new attraction with a football twist will be a "Super Street" filled with live music, games and activities with decorations themed to each of the two NFL conference champion teams in the big game.

Musical entertainment during the weekend will include:

Friday: Noon Ashley Wineland

2 p.m. Come Back Buddy 5:30 p.m. Urban Country

8:30 p.m. Cold Shott and the Hurricane Horns

Saturday: 10 a.m. Andy Gonzales and Jennifer Bone

Noon Desert Dixie
2:30 p.m. Guitarras Latinas
6 p.m. Marmalade Skies
8:30 p.m. SuperHero

One of the festival traditions, in celebration of romance and the upcoming Valentine's holiday, is the symposium of romance novelists that will appear during the event, offering meet-and-greet opportunities with fans, book signings, and free writing workshops for budding novelists to learn more about the craft. This event marks the southwest's largest gathering of romance novelists. A complete list of the authors and appearances can be found on the city's website.

Another fun tradition during the festival is the "Sweet Tooth" Contest, which encourages chocolatiers to pit their best chocolate item against the other participants in the festival to determine who has the best creation. In keeping with the Super Bowl theme, this year's contest will be a Tailgate Edition, featuring chocolate entries geared towards favorite game time snacks. The contest will take place on Friday, Jan. 30, in the Civic Center plaza. Attendees are encouraged to attend to watch the judges taste all the entries, and find out the first, second and third place winners.

The Chocolate Affaire will also be a stop of the AZ SciTech Festival's lineup of events across the Valley, with a booth and demonstration of the correlation between science and chocolate. More information about the AZ SciTech Festival can be found here.

Event hours are Friday noon - 10 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. - 10 p.m. The event is located in the heart of Historic Downtown Glendale, in Murphy Park, located at 58th and Glendale avenues. There are plenty of free parking spots in the downtown area, but event attendees also have the option of paying for preferred parking in the two downtown garages, located at City Hall, at 59th and Glendale Avenues and the Bank of America Building, at 58th and Glenn drives. Both garages should be accessed from 59th Avenue and Glenn Drive.

The Glendale Chocolate Affaire is presented by Sears Vacations, and sponsored by Cerreta Candy Company, SRP, Valley Buick-GMC Dealers, ABC-15 KNXV, KMLE, KOOL, Live 101.5, The Arizona Republic, Direct Buy, Monster, Camelback Ranch-Glendale and the Arizona Coyotes.

For more information on Glendale's festivals, click here or call our special events hotline at 623-930-2299.

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